

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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> Board of Supervisors **GLORIA MOLINA** First District

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To:

June 8, 2001

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT AB 771 (RUNNER) - ANTELOPE VALLEY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (ITEM NO. 8, AGENDA OF JUNE 12, 2001)

Agenda Item Number 8 is a motion by Supervisor Antonovich that the Board support AB 771 (Runner), which would create the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) and instruct the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to work with the author to secure passage of this measure.

Existing law establishes the Antelope Valley Air Pollution Control District (APCD) as a county air pollution control district. The APCD covers Lancaster and Palmdale and the desert region of Los Angeles County north of the San Gabriel Mountains.

As introduced, AB 771 would abolish the existing APCD, and instead, create the AVAQMD that will be a separate entity from the County. The new AVAQMD has the same boundaries, governing board structure, and general duties as the former APCD, and would have authority similar to that granted to other AQMDs. AB 771 requires District officials to appoint existing staff of the APCD to the AVAQMD, and entitles all employees of the District to the benefits of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937. AB 771 clarifies that the AVAQMD succeeds to all funds, property, and obligations of the APCD.

The APCD currently contracts with the neighboring Mojave Desert AQMD for staff and services. Because it is currently a county district, the APCD is subject to Los Angeles County's civil service system. Instead of renewing its contract, the APCD wants to hire its own staff. The only major change under AB 771 will be that the new AVAQMD will not be Each Supervisor June 8, 2001 Page 2

a County District, thereby removing the requirement for the District to follow County civil service provisions. This measure would become effective January 1, 2002.

The Department of Regional Planning recommends that the County support AB 771, indicating that the bill reflects a progression towards local control of air pollution solutions. Support for AB 771 is consistent with Board Action of March 28, 2000 to support SB 1459 (Knight), an identical measure.

AB 771 is supported by the Antelope Valley Air Pollution Control District. There is no registered opposition. AB 771 has not received a negative vote and passed off the Assembly Floor by a 72 - 0 vote on May 29, 2001. This measure is currently set for hearing on June 20, 2001 in the Senate Local Government Committee.

Please let me know if you need any additional information, or your staff may contact Eddie Washington at (213) 893-2479.

DEJ:GK EW:md

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Department of Regional Planning
Legislative Strategist